



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - November 12, 2002

- ***In the West***, beneficial showers continue to benefit ***Northwestern*** winter grains and improve high-elevation snow packs. Meanwhile in the ***Southwest***, warm, dry weather favors autumn fieldwork, although effects of long-term precipitation deficits include reduced irrigation reserves and drought-stressed rangelands.
- ***On the Plains***, cooler weather is again slowing winter wheat development, following a brief period of favorably warm, dry weather. Soil moisture reserves remain limited across roughly the ***northwestern half of the Plains***, raising concerns about wheat's establishment and winter hardiness.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, weekend rainfall left some fields too wet for final summer crop harvesting, but boosted soil moisture reserves for winter wheat establishment.
- ***In the South***, showers and thunderstorms continue to spread eastward toward the ***Atlantic Coast***, although at a lower intensity than recent deadly thunderstorms ***west of the Appalachians***. Meanwhile, dry weather prevails in the ***Delta***, where weekend showers brought another round of soybean and cotton harvest delays.

Outlook: A low-pressure system will track northeastward along the ***Atlantic Coast***, resulting in widespread rain across the ***East***. Mild, dry weather will prevail across the ***southern Plains and Delta***, while a cold front will bring showers and colder weather to the ***Corn Belt***. Elsewhere, scattered showers will continue in the ***Pacific Northwest***, while warm, dry weather is expected in the ***Southwest***. By week's end, a developing storm system is likely to bring additional rain to the ***South*** and ***East***, with some snow possible across inland areas. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 17-21 calls for above-normal precipitation in the ***Northwest and New England***, while near- to below-normal precipitation is forecast for the remainder of the U.S. Warmer-than-normal weather is expected across much of the nation, except for near-normal temperatures in the ***Southeast***.

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